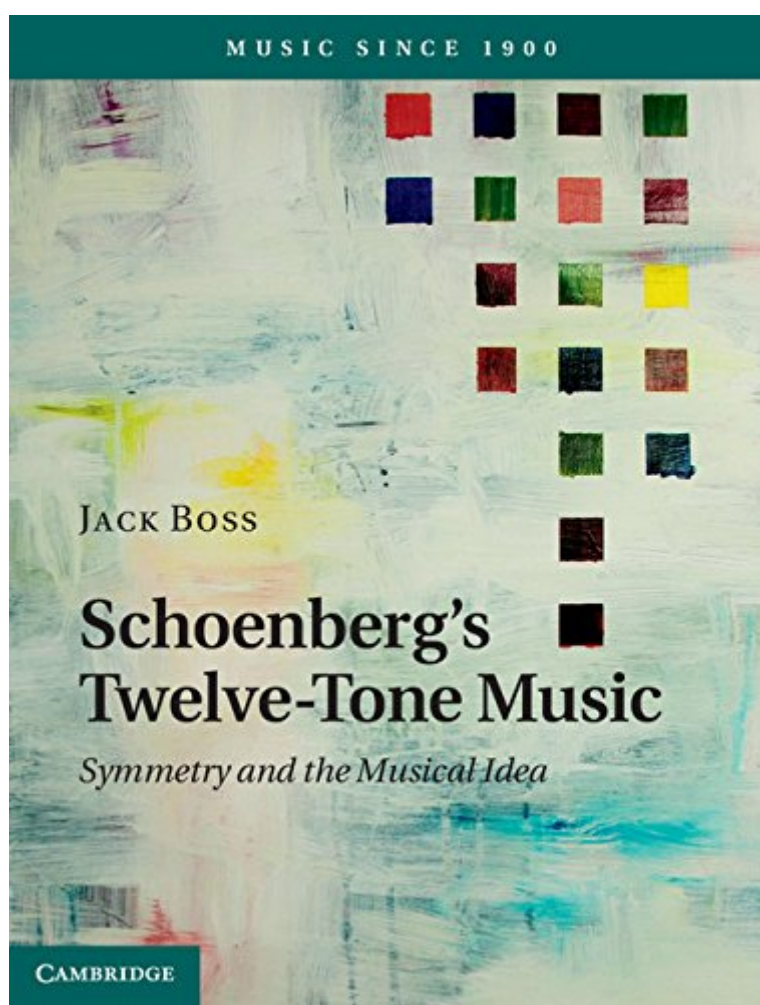


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Schoenberg's Twelve-Tone Music: Symmetry And The Musical Idea (Music Since 1900)



Synopsis

Jack Boss takes a unique approach to analyzing Arnold Schoenberg's twelve-tone music, adapting the composer's notion of a 'musical idea' - problem, elaboration, solution - as a framework and focusing on the large-scale coherence of the whole piece. The book begins by defining 'musical idea' as a large, overarching process involving conflict between musical elements or situations, elaboration of that conflict, and resolution, and examines how such conflicts often involve symmetrical pitch and interval shapes that are obscured in some way. Containing close analytical readings of a large number of Schoenberg's key twelve-tone works, including *Moses und Aron*, the *Suite for Piano Op. 25*, the *Fourth Quartet*, and the *String Trio*, the study provides the reader with a clearer understanding of this still-controversial, challenging, but vitally important modernist composer.

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